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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-08 H-01 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
SP-02 OC-06 CTME-00 DUMY-00 SS-15 ICAE-00 USSS-00
SY-05 FAA-00 WRDE-00 MCT-01 /082 W
----------018773 181522Z /45
P R 181440Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5375
INFO AMCONGEN FRANKFURT
AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 1277

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, CZ
SUBJECT: MAY 17 HIJACK ATTEMPT REPORTED FOILED

REF: (A) PRAGUE 1239, (B) PRAGUE 1237, (C) FRANKFURT 3856,
(D) PRAGUE 0394

1. MAY 18 RUDE PRAVO REPORTS THAT ATTEMPT TO HIJACK A CSA YAK-40 AIRCRAFT ON MAY 17 BRNO-PRAGUE FLIGHT OK-038 WAS FOILED. WOULD-BE HIJACKER, IDENTIFIED AS "S.L., A RESIDENT OF BRNO," WAS SUBDUED AND TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. NO PASSENGERS WERE HURT, AND AIRCRAFT REPORTEDLY LANDED SAFELY AT PRAGUE.

2. BRIEF RP ITEM DOES NOT CLEARLY STATE WHETHER ATTEMPT WAS "FOILED" BEFORE OR DURING FLIGHT. HOWEVER, COLLINS HAY, LOCAL PAN AM REP, TELLS US HE UNDERSTANDS IT OCCURRED DURING FLIGHT, WHICH WOULD INDICATE CURRENT VERY STRINGENT SECURITY SCREENING PROCEDURES AT CZECHOSLOVAK AIRPORTS HAVE AGAIN FAILED TO PREVENT AN EMBARRASSING (TO GOC) ON-BOARD HIJACK ATTEMPT. MAY 10 HIJACKING OF CSA PLANE TO FRANKFURT WAS THIRD SUCCESSFUL HIJACK OF A CSA FLIGHT SINCE LAST
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OCTOBER, ALTHOUGH FEB. 6 FLIGHT (REF D) ORIGINATED OUTSIDE CSSR IN EAST BERLIN.

3. COMMENT: IN RECENT MONTHS, SCREENING PROCEDURES AT PRAGUE'S RUZYNE AND PRESUMABLY BRNO AND OTHER CZECHOSLOVAK AIRPORTS HAVE BEEN TIGHTENED CONSIDERABLY. RESULTS TO DATE CLEARLY INCLUDE MUCH LONGER WAITS TO BOARD

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DEPARTING AIRCRAFT (BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS), MANY DELAYED DEPARTURES, HEIGHTENED EXASPERATION OF PASSENGERS AND INCREASED SURLINESS OF POLICE AND AIRPORT CONTROL OFFICIALS. WHETHER RESULTS ALSO INCLUDE INCREASED DETERRENCE AND APPREHENSION OF WOULD-BE HIJACKERS WHO WANT TO GO TO THE WEST IS LESS CERTAIN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRAGUE01277
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780209-0848
Format: TEL
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780545/aaaablnb.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b5c2309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PRAGUE 1239, 78 PRAGUE 1237, 78 FRANKFURT 3856, 78 PRAGUE 394
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2650953
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAY 17 HIJACK ATTEMPT REPORTED FOILED
TAGS: EAIR, CZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
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